

Message Text

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SUBJECT:COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAM AND COORDINATION--MEDIUM
TERM PLAN--HUMAN RIGHTS

FOLLOWING ARE BACKGROUND COMMENTS AS GUIDANCE FOR USDEL
IN COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF CHAPTER 9 (HUMAN RIGHTS) OF THE
MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1980-1983 (DOC. A/33/6
(PART 9)):

(A) SUGGEST THAT GREATER STRESS SHOULD BE PLACED UPON
COORDINATION, ESPECIALLY WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM. WITH THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL BODIES SUCH AS THE HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMITTEE UNDER THE COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL
RIGHTS AND THE CERD UNDER THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINA-
TION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, AND WITH
INCREASED EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES
SUCH AS UNESCO AND THE ILO, THE NEED FOR MORE DELIBERATE
AND SYSTEMATIC COORDINATION OF THE TOTAL HUMAN RIGHTS
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EFFORT HAS GROWN. WE DOUBT THAT THE SOMEWHAT INFORMAL
COORDINATION ACTIVITIES WHICH NOW APPEAR TO BE CARRIED OUT
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ACC ARE GOING TO BE ENOUGH.
IT IS ALREADY CLEAR THAT IN SOME AREAS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
THERE IS A TENDENCY TOWARD DUPLICATION. IT IS

IMPORTANT THAT COORDINATION BE STRENGTHENED, BOTH TO

AVOID DUPLICATION TO AS GREAT AN EXTENT AS POSSIBLE AND TO IMPROVE THE TOTAL IMPACT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS EFFORT THROUGH THE MOST EFFICIENT USE OF THE VARIOUS INSTRUMENTALITIES.

(B) AGREE THAT OF THE SUB-PROGRAM CATEGORIES, SUB-PROGRAM 1 CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION IS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND SHOULD HAVE PRIORITY ATTENTION. THE DISCUSSION OF THIS SUB-PROGRAM IN THE REFERENCED DOCUMENT IS GENERALLY ADEQUATE AND REFLECTS U.S. POLICY EMPHASIS ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE CAPACITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANS TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY AND EVENHANDEDLY WITH ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

(C) THE STANDARD-SETTING SUB-PROGRAM IS ALSO GENERALLY SATISFACTORY ALTHOUGH IT IS CLEAR THAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD SHOW RESTRAINTS IN AUTHORIZING RESEARCH AND STUDIES IN THE RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANS SO AS NOT TO OVERBURDEN THE RESOURCES OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION. WE ENCOURAGE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES, ESPECIALLY BY THE SUBCOMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES WHERE THE BULK OF THE STUDIES IN PROGRESS HAVE ORIGINATED.

(D) EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO THE ADVISORY SERVICES PROGRAM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND TO THE NEED FOR ITS RE-INVIGORATION. THIS CONCERN WAS REFLECTED IN RESOLUTION 11 (XXXIV) ADOPTED AT THE 34TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS WITH THE STRONG SUPPORT OF THE U.S. DELEGATION. RESOLUTION 11 IN TURN WAS ENDORSED BY ECOSOC AT ITS RECENTLY COMPLETED FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1978.

(E) RE SUB-PROGRAM 4, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RACE DISCRIMINATION DECADE, USDEL SHOULD KEEP IN MIND U.S. POLICY POSITION OF NON-PARTICIPATION IN THE DECADE. IN THE EVENT THAT THE COMMITTEE IS CALLED UPON TO TAKE A POSITION ON ANY ASPECT OF SUB-PROGRAM 4, USDEL SHOULD REITERATE OUR POSITION OF NON-PARTICIPATION. VANCE

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